

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/072,872	KANAMORI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Long Nguyen	2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 2/2/07 and authorization for examiner's amendment on 2/23/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5,6,8-20,22,24,25 and 27-39.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 2/2/07. Note that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, of claims 6 and 25 in the last office action have been withdrawn based on applicant's amendment and persuasive arguments.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Michele Connell (Reg. No. 52,763) on 2/23/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims

Claim 17, line 11, "is line" has been changed to --is inserted between a first power line--.

Claim 17, line 12, "inserted between a first power" has been deleted.

Reasons For The Above Changes

The above changes have been made to correct the minor informalities in claim 17.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-20, 22, 24, 25 and 27-39 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 17 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a third transistor and a fourth transistor with the recited connections therein, and wherein the third transistor provides a minute current in response to a clock signal at a first level, and the third transistor provides a first drive current larger than the minute current in response to the clock signal at a second level, and wherein the fourth transistor provides a second drive current in response to the clock signal at the second level.

Claims 3, 5, 6 and 8-16 are allowed because they depend on claim 1.

Claims 18, 19, 22, 24, 25 and 27-35 are allowed because they depend on claim 17

Claims 20 and 36 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a circuit including, in combination with other limitations, an equalizer circuit receiving the differential signal, removing an inter-Symbol Interference of the differential signal by a Partial Response Detection, and outputting the inter-Symbol Interference removed differential signal to said differential amplifier circuit.

Claim 37 is allowed because it depends on claim 36.

Claims 38 and 39 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a third transistor and an eighth transistor with the recited connections therein, and wherein the third transistor keeps a minute current flowing through the first and second transistors in response to a control signal at a first level, and the third transistor provides a first drive current larger than the minute current in response to the control signal at a second level.

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Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directly to Examiner Long Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1753. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00am to 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached at (571) 272-1740. The fax number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER